

SRI D. DEVARAJ URS.—Whatever we had spoken earlier should not go to the Press.

SRI S.R. BOMMAL.—We are correcting the genuine mistake that was committed.

MR. SPEAKER.—Now, the Finance Minister will make a statement.

Statement by Shri S.M. Yahya, Minister for Finance :

re : Grant of D.A. to the Government Employees

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Karnataka State Government Employees' Association have raised certain demands relating to grant of relief by way of dearness allowance instead of hardship allowance on a more liberalised formula. They have also been pressing Government for liberalisation of House Rent Allowance and City Compensatory Allowance, as also for implementing the recommendations of the Official Pay Committee.

2. We have always had very good and harmonious relations with our employees. We want these to continue in order that our employees may continue to work with dedication and efficiency as they have always done. At the same time, what we can do for them also depends on our ability to provide the requisite funds.

3. We have decided to change the name from 'Hardship Allowance' to 'Dearness Allowance' and to give one instalment on the existing formula with effect from 1st February 1979. The demand for an additional instalment of D.A and other demands relating to HRA, CCA, liberalised formula for DA and the recommendation of Official Pay Committee will be discussed with the Association after the budget session.

4. The expenditure on the instalment now being granted will be Rs. 4.74 crores for Government employees in a full year.

MR. SPEAKER.—Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 1-00 P.M. tomorrow.

The House adjourned at Forty five minutes past Five of the clock to meet again at One of the Clock on Friday the 23rd March 1979.